



Dear Friend:

Yesterday, after less than 43 legislative hours, the new Congress passed the last bill of our 100-hour agenda with plenty of time to spare. I was proud to work with my colleagues from both sides of the aisle to move forward on issues that make a difference in Americans' lives.

This week, House Democrats fulfilled the promise we made to the American people in November to take our nation in a new direction. Each measure passed had broad bipartisan support in the House of Representatives and from the American people.

Since the 110th Congress convened on January 4, the House has passed the following bills, which will now go to the Senate for further action:

- **Ethics Reform** (passed 430 to 1): Restoring honesty and openness to the House by cleaning up the culture of corruption in Washington and severing unethical ties between lobbyists and lawmakers.
- **Restoring Fiscal Responsibility** (passed 280 to 152): Establishing a system of "pay-as-you-go" to balance the federal budget and bring down the nation's skyrocketing debt.
- **Implementing the 9/11 Commission Recommendations** (passed 299-128): Implementing long overdue steps recommended by the bipartisan 9/11 Commission to improve homeland security, prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction, and to prevent the spread of Islamic extremism.
- **Increasing the Minimum Wage** (passed 315-116): Raising the federal minimum wage from \$5.15 to \$7.25 an hour.
- **Expanding Stem Cell Research** (passed 253-174): Bringing hope for treatment and cures to those Americans living with life-threatening and debilitating disease.
- **Requiring Medicare to Negotiate for Lower Prescription Drug Costs** (passed 255-170): A common-sense fix that will save seniors and taxpayers money.
- **Cutting Interest Rates in Half on Subsidized Student Loans** (passed 356-71): Saving the typical student borrower in Oregon almost \$5,000 over the life of their loans, once fully phased-in.
- **Ending Subsidies for Big Oil and Investing in Renewable Energy** (passed 264 – 163): Developing domestic renewable energy and alternative fuels and working to end our dependence on foreign oil, a step that is crucial to strengthening our national security.

These accomplishments are only the beginning. The Democratic Leadership has set a tone of cooperation and compromise that will stretch beyond party lines and we will continue to work on the real challenges facing the American people.

Sincerely,

Darlene Hooley
Member of Congress